Mr. B. Gopalachar.—

If the District Boards have not got the required funds, is it not possible for Government themselves to provide mid-wives from the Malnad Improvement Fund?

First Member of Council.—

The matter may be discussed by the Malnad Improvement Committee and proposals sent up.

Mr. B. Gopalachar.—

Is there a possibility of such a proposal being sanctioned?

Dewan.—

We shall certainly consider the question.

At this stage, the Dewan informed the House that Mr. H. B. Gundappa had given notice of a motion to adjourn the business of the House to discuss the question of the conversion of a large number of Incomplete Middle Schools into Primary Schools. He added that the motion had been admitted by him as President, and enquired if the House was prepared to discuss it. On more than 50 members consenting, the motion was reserved for discussion at 4 o'clock the same day.

RESOLUTIONS—(*Contd.*)

Resolution No. 3.

MR. GUNDAPPA moved.—

" That this Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that the District Boards may be allowed to have their own Engineering establishments."

In moving it, he said that the practice in all the eight districts was to allow the District Boards to entrust all their works to the Government Public Works Department and make payments when final bills were presented to them. The President of a District Board had no power to scrutinise the estimates or the final bills. He had no intimation as to when the metal was going to be collected, when consolidation was going to be done, etc., and even his inspection notes were of no practical use. A President might take objection to an estimate or bill because of want of proper details; but when a final bill was received, the amount had simply to be paid in spite of such defects; otherwise, the engineering officers

would threaten the District Board that the bills would be referred to the Comptroller who was certain to debit the District Board accounts to the necessary extent.

Speaking of the Hassan District in particular, the mover said that whereas large works were entrusted to the Department of Public Works there were still many small works which were being done very satisfactorily by Sanitary Inspectors attached to the District Board. The District Board was spending as much as one lakh of rupees on such small works alone every year, and by entrusting such works to the Department of Public Works the District Board had to pay as much as Rs. 18,000 to it as establishment charges, tools and plant charges, etc. If the same amount was utilised by the District Boards in appointing engineering establishments of their own, it would be easily possible for them to attend to all the works more economically or at any rate more efficiently. Ordinarily, the Sanitary Inspectors did no sanitation work. Their services in that direction might perhaps be specially required in times of epidemics. But barring such times, it was more economical for the District Boards to make use of these officials for supervising small engineering works. In fact, the speaker would even prefer the District Boards doing away with Sanitary Inspectors' appointments and having Sub-Overseers instead. Or, each District Board would have an Assistant Engineer and supervision of the works by him was bound to be better than that by Sanitary Inspectors. The present system was a most unsatisfactory one and it was an open secret that the district engineering officers would work day and night and move heaven and earth to make the roads look good enough whenever, for instance, tours of higher officers were announced.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that no such special preparation was required and that the tours were intended to ascertain the normal state of affairs in various parts of the State.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA suggested that it would be a very interesting experiment, if instructions were issued to them that for a month or so before such tours, the Department of Public Works should not effect any repairs or do any special works.

MR. M. NANJAPPA invited attention to the proportionately large expenditure incurred in the various districts just at the time of tours by the Dewan, Members of Council or other high officers.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that it was not so easy to do away with Sanitary Inspectors as the mover of the resolution seemed to imagine. He asked what the District Board would do in case there was an outbreak, for instance, of cholera.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA replied that all that had to be done at such a time was hankanising wells, which Sub-Overseers could do as well if they had only some health training. At any rate, he did not anticipate any difficulty in giving effect to the resolution; because in Madras, each District Board was allowed to have its own engineering establishment as Sanitary Inspectors had some engineering training.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that the case of the District Boards in Madras was quite different because of their very affluent circumstances. But if each District Board worked out a scheme and forwarded it to Government, it would receive due consideration.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA then requested that a portion of the cost of the engineering establishment be borne by Government as in the case of the cost of foreign medicines and salaries of medical officers.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that that principle would not apply to the matter under consideration.

MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA continuing said that the work of the Department of Public Works in respect of District Board works was most unsatisfactory and perfunctory as was within common knowledge of all Deputy Commissioners. When Deputy Commissioners themselves, with all the powers vested in them and all the influence exercised by them, could do nothing to improve the ways of the Department of Public Works, he asked what the non-official presidents of District Boards could do to give good roads and other amenities to the public. It was anomalous that the District Boards were expected simply to pay all the bills presented to them without having anything like a voice in checking the figures or scrutinising the work done.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY seconded the resolution, and thanked the Government for extending the scheme of non-official presidents to all the districts. He said that public works were usually classified under two headings, *viz.*, "A" and "B." While "A" works were all executed by the Department of Public Works, "B" works, which were mostly small ones, were done by the Sanitary Inspectors appointed by District Boards. He did not know whether

the Government were labouring under a misapprehension that District Boards were not competent to supervise the execution of "A" class works. At present, they had no voice in respect of these works and whenever the President of a District Board tried to scrutinise the estimates or check the works, the officers of the Department of Public Works seemed to think that he did not know anything of engineering.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL asked whether the bills were not finally countersigned by District Board Presidents.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY replied that even that was a mere formality. Anything that the President liked to tell the engineering officers even at that stage would never be received sympathetically. The President had not even the voice to ask the engineering officers to do a particular item of work earlier than others. He had also no voice in the matter of accepting particular tenders. He said it would be a great improvement if the Executive Engineer was made responsible to the District Board for everything done by him. It was a matter of principle that, when a President was expected to countersign a bill, he should also have the power to inspect the work in respect of which the bill had come up and also to give necessary suggestions.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL observed that there was nothing to prevent a District Board President from doing it.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY said that though there was nothing to prevent him, the Sub-Overseers in charge of the works would not allow the President to exercise his powers.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL pointed out that Sub-Overseers were not the final authorities. The inspection notes of Presidents of District Boards should be addressed to the higher officers after scrutinising the estimates and satisfying themselves that these were correctly prepared.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY said that the present arrangement had too many defects. There would be no trouble if the District Boards had their own establishments.

MR. G. MALLANNA remarked that that impression was generally correct. After all, engineering was a highly specialised technical branch of work.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY asked how, at that rate, any Member of Council in charge of the Engineering portfolio could be considered competent to hold it.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that no lay

Member of Council professed to correct Engineers on technical points.

MR. B. S. PUTTASWAMY said that the District Board of Mysore particularly executed works costing about Rs. 1½ lakhs every year, which came under the "A" class of works referred to above. On account of those works, it paid the Department of Public Works about Rs. 36,000 as establishment charges, tools and plant charges. If the same amount were utilised by the District Board, it could employ three Assistant Engineers, each in charge of a division. He (the member) could develop a scheme on this basis if the Government promised to consider it favourably. Government need not have the fear that, if it was accepted, the Public Works officers now in the districts would be disturbed. This was not at all the idea of the District Boards, though they would prefer to have officers of the department drawing smaller salaries, who were able to attend to ordinary road repairs and maintenance. The present Sanitary Inspectors and the new Sub-Overseers or Sub-Engineers could do all the work now done by the Department of Public Works in the districts.

MR. H. C. DASAPPA began by saying that the present system was full of anomalies, and at present, the attitude of engineering officers towards District Board works was step-motherly. He said that the responsibility for District Board works must vest in the District Board Presidents; because, at present, nobody held himself responsible for these. The condition of District Board roads under the present system was far from satisfactory. The Engineering Department was giving the most scanty attention to roads. Though a large number of motor buses were allowed to ply on each road, adequate attention was not paid to keep them in proper condition. The result was that the present condition of roads was worse than ever before. When that was the experience of the work done by the Government department, he did not see why the Government should not give the District Boards a chance of showing whether they could not maintain them any the better.

MR. B. OOSMAN KHAN, speaking against the resolution, said that for a long time he was a member as well as Vice-President of a District Board, and his experience of the matter was that it would never conduce to good work if District Boards were allowed to have their own engineering establishments. The self same question had been considered on more than one occasion in the past and a large

number of districts were in favour of continuing the present system. In 1924, when this very question was discussed, four districts did not want to have engineering establishments of their own. In October 1926, a Conference of Officers of Government came to the conclusion that it was not desirable to entrust these works to the District Boards. In the Dasara Session of 1928, Mr. Bagamane Deva Gowda put a question on the same subject in the Assembly (Question No. 44), in reply to which the Government said that it was not possible to concede the request.

At this stage, MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA intervened and said that the reply of the Government was that the resolution would be considered in case a majority of the District Boards were in favour of it.

MR. B. OOSMAN KHAN asserted the correctness of his own statement.

Continuing, he said that, at present, inspection was being done by the temporary Maistry, the Assistant Engineer, the Executive Engineer, the Superintending Engineer and the Chief Engineer. Considering the benefit of inspection by such a hierarchy of officers, the 18½ per cent paid by District Boards to the Department of Public Works was nothing very much. If the District Boards wanted Engineering establishments of their own, surely, they would have to spend more than double what they were now spending. Considering the extent of some districts, more than one Assistant Engineer might be required, and unless a sufficient number of higher officers was appointed, every subordinate official would himself become the Chief Engineer. The scheme of non-official presidents had just been introduced in all the districts, and it was too early for the present incumbents to say that they knew everything including technical matters. By precipitating matters, the poor raiyats' money would only be wasted in various ways—travelling allowances to the President, initial equipment, establishment charges, tools and plants, renewals, etc. In these circumstances, he could not agree that the present system was disadvantageous to District Boards.

LOKAHITAISHI H. NANJUNDARAJ URS said that the scheme of non-official president was being tried as an experimental measure and it was only in the fitness of things that they must be tried in the direction indicated in the resolution also. At present the Presidents had not even power to inspect the work of the Assistant Engineer and could not question anything that he did in the matter of

road works. He was of opinion that, when a responsible duty was cast on a person, he might be allowed to have a free hand for some time at least. He did not think there was any use in constituting non-official presidents merely as an ornament. If the President was only given the services of an experienced Assistant Engineer with a couple of Sub-Overseers, he was sure that all the work done by the Public Works Department in the districts could be got done very easily at a much less cost. He was firmly of opinion that there was no use of authority without responsibility. The District Board at present had only the duty of making payments without any responsibility of seeing that the money that they voted was well spent.

MR. B. GOPALACHAR also supported the resolution. He stated that half the income of the District Board was spent on original works on which they had absolutely no manner of control. The officers of the Public Works Department who carried out the major works of the District Board in the Shimoga District charged as much as Rs. 18,000 on account of tools and plant alone. He said that with this amount the District Board could maintain their own establishment and carry out their works independently of the Public Works Department. This department was charged at present with not only carrying out the works of the provincial roads but also district fund roads. In practice they invariably attended to the provincial roads in the first instance, and, time permitting, the district board roads later. No wonder that the district board roads were generally in a very inefficient condition for which the Board was blamed rather than the Public Works Department. If, on the other hand, the District Boards had their own special staff to carry out their own works, much of the complaint now levelled against the District Board would disappear.

Referring to Mr. Oosman Khan's argument that, if the District Board had their own establishment, the cost of the staff would be much more than the amount now levied by the Public Works Department and that the Board would not have the benefit of inspection by the higher engineering officers, the speaker said that there were very few instances of District Board works having ever been inspected either by the Superintending Engineer or the Chief Engineer. The District Board had their own sanitary establishment and if a separate engineering establishment had also been given to them, it would be very easy for the Board to carry on all sanitary and road works without much difficulty at a

much less cost than now charged by the Public Works Department. He failed to understand why Government should not allow this arrangement when the District Boards themselves were eager to have control over the works.

THE FIRST MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that it was open to question whether the District Boards could carry out all their works with much less cost if they had their own engineering staff. If the District Boards would send a properly worked up scheme, Government would be glad to examine it and pass necessary orders.

MR. G. MALLANNA in opposing the resolution said that the Public Works Department was now carrying out the works of the District Board as the agent of that body. Whoever carried out the works—whether the District Board establishment or the Public Works Department establishment—the work was being carried on according to the scheduled rates. It was also much better if the major works of the District Boards were carried on under the supervision of an expert technical staff than under the direction of a non-technical president. Even under the existing arrangement the President could certainly inspect the works and give his advice which would be considered by the Public Works Department. He feared that, if the District Boards were given a separate engineering establishment, the road works would not be carried on as efficiently as at present. He also did not think that the Public Works Department was any way largely responsible for the bad condition of certain district board roads because the allotment by the District Boards generally varied from Rs. 150 to Rs. 300 per mile, while the rate for provincial roads was much above that limit.

Reference had also been made to the practice in the Madras District. The speaker said that it was common knowledge that the area of a district in the Madras Presidency was much larger than that of the average district in Mysore and that the districts in the former were also much richer. For these reasons, it might be possible for the Madras Districts to carry on the road works with their own establishment.

The speaker was of opinion that the President did not even properly supervise the work of a few Sanitary Inspectors and while such was the case, he was doubtful whether they would really supervise larger works in the district.

MR. B. SRINIVASIENGAR of Anekal said that the

principle involved in the resolution was certainly good, looked at from the stand-point that the paymaster should have control over the execution of the works for which payment was made. He asked if some danger or accident occurred on a district board road on account of some mistake in the lay-out of the road, who should be sued for damages, whether the principal or the agent. If the District Board carried out the works without expert supervision, the District Board would certainly be liable. He was of opinion that as education progressed in the country, such questions were sure to arise in the near future. In their anxiety for assuming responsibility the District Boards might consider that they were quite fit for supervising the execution of their own works, but he said there was danger ahead in the present state of things. The mover said that the Sanitary Inspectors were not doing any important work and that their appointments might be abolished and in their places Sub-Overseers appointed. Here also the speaker sounded a note of warning. The health work of a district was very important and it was quite necessary that the Presidents should take proper care of the health of the district by seeing that the Sanitary Inspectors did their duty properly. He did not think that the Sanitary Inspectors were superfluous. Again, with regard to the engineering staff required, the speaker said that a small officer like a Sub-Engineer or an Overseer would not be sufficient to supervise important road works in the district without any guidance from higher officer. The officer in charge of the operations should be a man of sufficient status commanding respect in the whole district and it should be his duty to properly scrutinise and check the several schemes submitted to him. In this way, the District Boards would certainly have to bear a large expenditure on account of the engineering staff. In these circumstances, he thought that time was not yet ripe for the District Boards to have their own engineering establishment.

MR. K. A. RAHIM said that the City Municipalities had their own engineering staff who carried out very important engineering works within their jurisdiction under the supervision of the President. In this way, he thought that it should not be difficult for the District Boards also to maintain a similar engineering establishment within their jurisdiction. With reference to the existing arrangement in regard to the carrying out of the road works, the speaker said that the Public Works Department devoted a major

portion of their attention only to the provincial roads leaving the district board roads severally alone or for being taken up towards almost at the end of the year. The result was that these roads would be generally in a state of utter disrepair. They did not care to collect road metal in time nor to attend to the work of consolidation. It was common knowledge that when the Public Works establishment found that any big officer of the State was going to travel by that road, they somehow did a little patch work to make it appear that the road was kept in an efficient condition. But, as a matter of fact, within a few days after the return of such an officer the road would again go to ruin and very often would become unfit for travel. He did not think there was much technicality in regard to the road works and that only an expert technical staff was necessary for them. Even the officers of the Engineering Department did only supervision work, while the execution was entrusted to common contractors. He said that at least as a temporary measure the works might be entrusted to the District Board itself and if the execution under their management was not satisfactory, the arrangement might be very easily terminated later.

He also supported the mover in the statement that the Sanitary Inspector did very little work and that the pay given to him by the District Board was an absolute waste of money. The staff of Sanitary Inspectors could, in his opinion, be better merged in the engineering staff and utilised for the execution of District Board works.

MR. HOSAKOPPA KRISHNA RAO did not see how the work of the Public Works Department in the matter of road repairs was technical. If that could be called technical, then the administration itself was technical. All that was required was an efficient control over the works. In the present case the District Board had to pay whether the execution of the work was good, bad or indifferent. Although the works were actually carried out by the Public Works Department, all the blame on account of the bad condition of the district fund roads went to the respective District Boards. That was not proper. If Government thought that the Public Works Department alone were competent to carry out the District Board works, then let the entire responsibility for the works, including the cost of the works, be taken over by that department. He did not think that the arrangement of one body paying for the work and the other only carrying out the works was just. The present

practice was for the District Board Presidents to countersign the plans and estimates and for the Public Works Department to do the rest with the aid of the grants made available by the District Board. The District Board had absolutely no control, either disciplinary or of supervision, over the work of the staff. All that was required in the resolution was that the District Board works should be under the management of the District Board alone. If Government were not prepared to concede this, the speaker thought that the scheme of Local Self-Government was of no practical utility. After all, the major works of the district were quite ordinary, such as putting up culverts, repairing roads or bridges, etc. These could be very easily got done by an independent establishment entirely under the control of the District Board at a much lower cost than was incurred under the existing arrangement. It was just possible that formerly, when a similar question had been moved and discussed, the Presidents of District Boards themselves were not agreeable to it. But it had to be borne in mind that that was a a time when the District Boards were presided over by official presidents.

With reference to Mr. Mallanna's argument that technical work should be done by the Public Works Department alone, the speaker thought that, if this position was maintained, there was no use in having a nominal District Board with a non-official president presiding over it. It was the speaker's personal experience that the higher officers of the Engineering Department hardly inspected the District Board works and that everything was left to the sweet will and pleasure and convenience of the subordinate officers. These subordinates had sufficient work in looking after the provincial roads, tank maintenance, etc., leaving very little time for the district board roads. He, however, agreed that the maintenance of a separate engineering establishment by the District Boards would entail a little more cost than at present. But he thought that at the initial stages at least, it was quite necessary that the Government should come forward to contribute a major portion of it.

Mr. Mahomed Imam congratulated the non-official District Board Presidents on their anxiety to take up more and more responsibility. But this was a question mainly of finance. If it was possible to save some money by the proposed arrangement, by all means it could be done; but the practical experience that he had in Chitaldrug was that the scheme would entail more cost on the District Boards. The next

point for consideration was whether it was necessary to allow a separate engineering establishment for the District Boards. In this connection, he pointed out that the districts in the State being comparatively small, it would be difficult to gauge what establishment would be necessary and whether that establishment would have sufficient work throughout the year. A third point that should be considered was whether supervision from the common-sense point of view was sufficient in regard to the works carried out by a technical staff. He was of opinion that unless these three items were definitely settled, it was not quite possible to come to a decision. If the mover and the Government agreed, he thought that a small committee might be constituted to examine the whole question and submit their recommendations.

MR. MARIAPPA in supporting the resolution said that the object of Government in appointing non-official presidents was to entrust them with more responsibilities. He was of opinion that Government had at present given those presidents only a name and not any appreciable power. He conceded that the Engineering Department was a technical department; but the technical part of it had to be done only by that establishment while the execution of work could be done by any non-technical man. Even the portfolio of the technical departments like the Public Works Department was being managed by a non-technical officer. All that was proposed in the resolution was that instead of the Public Works Department carrying out the major works of the District Boards, the District Boards themselves should have an independent engineering staff on whom proper control could be exercised.

MR. VENKATARAMANE GOWDA did not admit that non-official presidents were unfit to exercise control and supervision over the District Board works. As an instance in point, he stated that in Bangalore the previous President was responsible for the lay out of a special road ten miles in length which the Public Works Department itself certified to have been executed very efficiently. He was of opinion that every District Board should have a separate engineering establishment of its own. He also said that the Public Works Department very often reported that road metal was collected on any particular road, while on inspection by the President, it was found to be not there. Such things very often did occur, and if the power of supervision and control was not vested in the President, considerable amount of District Board money would be wasted.

MR. M. S. LINGE GOWDA opposed the resolution. He said that if the condition of the district board roads was bad, the main reason was that the allotment was very poor. If the control over the District Board works was vested in the President of the District Board, he did not think that anything new would happen. The only point for consideration was whether there would be any improvement in the execution of the works. He thought that what the Engineering Department did once by way of repairs would have to be done four times over, if the supervision was entrusted to the President.

MR. V. VENKATAPPA did not think that, if the appointments of Sanitary Inspectors were abolished, the health work of the District Board would in any way suffer. From his short experience of District Board work, he was in a position to say that the Sanitary Inspectors had very little work as could be seen from their diaries. For the very small amount of work turned out by them, the District Boards had to pay them pretty heavily. He thought that the expenditure on them was a waste. With regard to the observation that the work carried out by the Public Works Department was of a technical character, he said all those works were actually carried out by the contractors and that the Public Works Departmental officers only paid visits now and then to see whether the men were properly working. He did not think that any very special technical skill was required in the supervision of the works and that it was quite possible for a non-technical man to supervise the work of even Engineers from a merely common-sense point of view. The preparation of the plans was really a technical work and that should be done by the engineering establishment. Under the proposed arrangement, it was just possible that some more expenditure would be required; but if the question was looked at from the point of view of the bad condition of the roads under the supervision of the Public Works Department at present, it would not be far wrong to say that that expenditure was worth incurring in the interest of keeping the roads in better repair. It was said that there was nothing against the President sending inspection notes to the higher officers of the Engineering Department. He agreed that it was possible to do so, but said that if any drawbacks were pointed out, a reply would immediately come that with the allotment made by the District Board nothing more was possible. The result was that the President had to keep quiet.

Referring to the observation made by Mr. Oosman Khan that under the proposed arrangement the travelling allowance of the President would increase very largely, he said that the District Board had however to pay the travelling allowance whenever the President went out on tour and if he halted for some time to inspect some road works on the way it would not very appreciably increase the cost. He also pointed out that if the President incurred any extra expenditure on his tours, he would be handled roughly by the members with the result that the next day he would have to vacate his seat. In conclusion, he said that the experiment might be tried tentatively for some time and that, if it failed, the old state of things might be reverted to.

THE DEWAN said that Government were prepared to appoint a committee of officials and non-officials to consider whether the proposal was feasible from all points of view.

On this assurance, MR. H. B. GUNDAPPA withdrew the resolution.

Resolution No. 4.

MR. B. SITHARAMIAH moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that arrangements may be made to prepare, in the Bhadravati Iron Works, agricultural implements such as improved ploughs, sugar-cane mills, etc., and spare parts thereof in the interest of the economic condition of the raiyats."

In doing so, he said that all the necessary agricultural implements required by the raiyats could be manfactured at the Iron Works without any increase in the capital cost. He, therefore, commended the resolution to the best consideration of Government.

MR. V. V. IYER, in supporting the resolution, said that while foreign countries were making use of the Bhadravati iron and making much profit from it, the Mysore Government did not think it fit to get agricultural implements made there for the use of the raiyats. Unless such an industry was undertaken, the Works could not make any profit at all. He thought that if this industry was earnestly undertaken by the Works, much of the loss that it was incurring at present would disappear. He also did not think that Government would have to increase the capital cost of the Works.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY said that Government were giving attention to the matter. At the present time, more than 2,000 ploughs obtained from foreign countries were

being sold annually and there might be more demand. Hence, some arrangement to get the ploughs made locally was engaging the consideration of Government. Ploughs could not entirely be manufactured from iron. Some of the parts were made of steel. It was a question whether Bhadravati or Bangalore would be the more suitable place for the manufacture of agricultural implements. The matter was under the consideration of the Economic Development Board and when their recommendations were received, Government would give their best consideration to them. He added that Government were in sympathy with the object of the resolution.

On this assurance, the resolution was withdrawn.

Resolution No. 5.

MR. HAVERI BASSAPPA moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that a branch of the Land Mortgage Bank be established at Harihar as the raiyats of the Harihar Sub-Taluk are badly involved in debts."

The resolution was seconded by MR. G. CHANNAPPA.

MR. B. GOPALACHAR thought that if a debt survey of the State was made by Government and a programme drawn up for the establishment of Land Mortgage Banks based on the results of such survey, it might satisfy all parties.

MR. N. BASAPPA, while supporting the resolution, said that the sub-taluk of Harihar was steeped in debt and that some relief was necessary by way of establishment of a Land Mortgage Bank there.

MR. MIR MAHOMED said that, before coming to a final decision, it was necessary to consider the important industrial products of different places and see which place required more help than the other. He thought that Land Mortgage Banks were immediately necessary in places where coffee, cardamom and other similar commercial crops were in a very bad way and the raiyats had suffered incalculable losses. He however added that it was not right to establish banks only in the Malnad. He thought that the Chitaldrug District being the driest district in the State deserved to have a similar bank.

MR. MAHADEVAPPA said that the condition of the people of Harihar was very bad. No other product than jola and cotton could be grown there; but, for want of rain even

cotton was not grown. In this way, the people had been reduced to poverty and were under the clutches of money-lenders. State help in the shape of Land Mortgage Bank was immediately necessary to relieve their plight.

THE DEWAN said that steps would be taken to establish Land Mortgage Banks wherever it was possible to do so.

The resolution was withdrawn.

Resolution No. 6.

MR. SANIKAM KRISHNIAH, Chitaldrug Taluk, moved the following resolution:—

"This Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that they may be pleased to reduce the rates of fees in Colleges to what they were before."

MR. M. RAMASWAMI said that there was an impression that sons of rich men alone took to college education and he thought that this impression was wrong. Many poor boys had to give up higher education on account of enhancement of college fees. They had formerly some chance of attaining higher educational qualifications but the recent enhancement of fees had deprived them of such opportunities. He therefore seconded the resolution.

MR. KAPPANNA GOWDA said that the fees for the B.A. and M.A. classes had been increased largely. When the fees were less, about 700 to 800 boys were reading in the University classes. But after the enhancement of the fees, barely 300 to 400 pupils went up to the University. It might be argued that Government had made provision for a larger number of freeships; but, as a matter of fact, these freeships also had gone to the sons of rich men or to pupils obtaining recommendations from influential quarters leaving really deserving poor boys out of question. The result was that these boys had to give up higher education. Even in the Intermediate Colleges, the number had appreciably gone down. Hence, a reduction in the fees was, in his opinion, urgently called for.

MR. S. C. MALLIAH opposed the resolution. It was not clear to him how the enhancement of the fees affected the number of boys reading in the college classes. He conceded that equal facilities should be given to all boys for getting education ; but he did not subscribe to the idea that university education should have any priority over primary education. While most people in the rural parts were groaning under the weight of ignorance, it was not right to

create facilities for university education. After all, the University was maintained out of the funds provided by the rural parts and it was not just that, before improving the condition of education in the villages, any more grant should be given to the University. The relevancy of this argument, he said, arose in this way. If the fees were reduced to their former level, the difference in the income of the University had to be made up from the general revenue, which meant from the tax-payers. The Government were the trustees of the people and they should see how the revenue of the State should be distributed equitably between higher and primary education.

MR. MIR MAHOMED opposed the resolution from another stand-point. He said that boys living in the towns and cities obtained easily higher education at the expense of the people living in rural areas. The rural areas paid education cess although many of them did not get even a single primary school, while the amounts derived from them were spent on the townsmen who did not pay anything at all for the benefit of education obtained from the Government educational institutions. He, therefore, thought that if any relief was at all called for, it should be in favour of the people coming from the rural parts for higher education and not of people living in towns and cities.

MR. MADIAH GOWDA said that university education was meant to be taken advantage of only by a select few. When Government could not make adequate provision for primary education, it was not right to give more grants to the University by reducing the college fees. In his opinion, the enhancement of the fees was not at all responsible for the reduction in the number of students. Because, if a man was able to pay Rs. 7, he should be presumed to be able to pay a little more over and above it if called upon to do so. In consideration of the fact that college fees had been enhanced, Government increased the freeships also to 40 per cent. Ordinarily all the poor pupils got freeships and it was but right that well-to-do people should pay the usual fees. Hence he did not think any change was called for.

MR. G. CHANNAPPA admitted that primary education was more important but thai it did not mean that university education was less important. If the Government used the proceeds of the enhancement of the college fees to establish more primary schools, it might be a ground for saying, that by the enhancement of fees, primary education could be developed. But as a matter of fact it was not so. While

such was the case, he did not think it right to enhance the college fees. It should be admitted that candidates from the backward communities were largely going up for higher education and the enhancement of fees was a bar to their reading in the colleges. The effect of the enhancement, in his opinion, was that many of the poorer boys were kept back ; in other words, Government placed a discount on the higher education of the poorer boys of the backward classes. He thought that it was the duty of Government to afford better facilities to them. He agreed that freeships had been increased; but, as a rule, people in Mysore were poor and it could not also be said that rich pupils alone went to the University. In these circumstances, he thought that the resolution deserved to be accepted.

CAPT. Y. V. AYYA was of the opinion that increasing university education would only increase unemployment in the country. After all, each community had its own hostel or special funds to help the deserving poor belonging to the respective communities and it would not be a hardship to such boys if college fees were enhanced. It was common knowledge that in the West it was agreed on all hands that university education should not be made cheap. In this view, he thought that the enhancement of college fees was quite justified. He did not, however, agree that the enhancement had in any way reduced the number of college-going boys. If the fees were reduced, he was afraid that the burden on the tax-payers would be more to that extent.

At this stage, the Assembly rose for lunch and met again at 3-30 P.M.

MR. M. S. LINGE GOWDA supported the resolution. The main argument against the resolution was that the expenditure on the University was increasing and that it should be curtailed so as to make a portion of it available to be spent on primary education. This argument, he said, was not tenable; for, lakhs and lakhs of rupees were required for the extension of elementary education and that small savings of this kind from the University expenditure could not materially help the spread of elementary education. It was just possible that from the savings effected in the University expenditure a few more primary schools might be opened. But they would be nowhere in the general spread of the scheme of primary education. It was also said by a few speakers that the number of freeships and

scholarships had been materially increased. But he thought that this also did not reach the really deserving poor. He was of opinion that higher education was absolutely necessary and should be imparted side by side with primary education. Without higher education, the primary education by itself would be of no avail. If primary education should be expanded, it should not be at the expense of the grant to the University education. The income from the enhancement of the school fees amounted to barely Rs. 25,000 and that would not be sufficient to open more than perhaps half a dozen primary schools. In these circumstances, he said that the resolution about the reduction of college fees should be accepted by Government.

MRS. KAMALAMMA DASAPPA said that the enhancement of school fees did not affect the rich men nor the poor boys who got freeships and scholarships also but affected the middle classes to a very large extent. She therefore prayed for a reduction in the college fees.

The resolution was thereupon put to vote and carried by a large majority.

Resolution No. 26.

MRS. SAKAMMA moved the following resolution:—

"That this Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that it is necessary to appoint women lecturers for lecturing to women-folk in villages on matters relating to education, sanitation, public health and child welfare."

In doing so, she said that the village-folk were illiterate and that there were no facilities at all for the spread of education among their women-folk. Under the present system, there was absolutely no scope for the advancement of women in villages and in these circumstances, she commended the resolution to the acceptance of the House.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that although the idea underlying the resolution was very good, yet there were no qualified women coming forward to take up the work. He however promised that if possible a provision would be made in the next year's budget in this regard.

The resolution was accepted for adoption as far as practicable.

MRS. KAMALAMMA DASAPPA said that at the Ladies' Conference at Bangalore it was proposed to formulate a scheme for the appointment of lady lecturers and enquired

whether in the event of the scheme coming to fruition, the Government would render suitable necessary help.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that if the scheme was sent to Government, it would be considered.

Resolution No. 27.

MRS. KAMALAMMA DASAPPA moved the following resolution:—

"That this Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that it is necessary to open Government institutions or institutions aided by Government for child welfare."

In doing so, she said that the villagers were in a very backward condition and that they did not even know how to keep themselves clean. If they were asked to wash themselves properly, they would say that the Government did not give them even drinking water and as such they could find no water for washing themselves. While such was the case in the villages, it was no wonder that child welfare was altogether neglected. She thought that unless some action was taken to preserve the children in a healthy condition, the country could not come to the forefront. She therefore commended the resolution to the favourable consideration of Government.

MRS. SAKAMMA, in seconding the resolution, said that children were an important asset to the State and that unless they were properly cared for in the very beginning, both from the point of view of health and education, the country would not prosper. She observed that Government were taking care of children above 5 or 6 years of age in the matter of education, but very little attention was paid to those who were less than that age. It was quite necessary in her opinion that necessary action should be taken by Government to guard small children from disease and infant mortality.

MRS. KAMALAMMA DASAPPA said that in Bangalore the Mahila Samaj was doing a lot of work in the direction of child welfare. They had got their own midwives who attended to labour cases and gave the necessary instructions to women. The work done there was however to be largely supplemented, for which a lot of money was required. She therefore prayed for Government help.

THE DEWAN said that, if private organisations worked such institutions, Government would give suitable grants-in-aid to them.

Resolution No. 7.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA moved the following resolution:—

"That this Assembly recommends to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja that it may be so arranged that instead of recovering the court fees in full, as it now obtains, at the time of the institution of a civil suit, only half the fees will be recovered at the time of the institution and the other half after the issues are framed."

In doing so, he said that at present full court fees had to be paid on a suit. If before the framing of issues a compromise was arrived at between the parties, there was provision for the refund of half the court fees paid on the plaint. Ordinarily, due to ignorance of the people, this provision was not always availed of. He therefore requested the Government to accept the resolution.

MR. MIR MAHOMED seconded the resolution for the reasons mentioned by the mover. The resolution simply meant that half the court fees should be paid on the presentation of the plaint and in the event of no settlement out of court the other half would necessarily be paid. He did not think that there was any difficulty to Government in accepting the resolution. There would be no loss to Government and, on the other hand, there would be a distinct advantage to the party. Under the present system, the plaintiff should pay the entire court fee and when a compromise was effected and an order was made for the refund of half the court fee, it generally happened that the plaintiff did not get the money at all for obvious reasons. Such a contingency could also be avoided if the resolution was accepted by Government.

THE LAW SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT said that, when the same question came up in another form at the last session, it was complained by a few members that when the courts ordered refunds, the moneys did not ordinarily reach the hands of the parties. It was explained at the time that the practice originally was that unless the parties gave a special *vakalat* to the lawyers, the amounts could not be given to the lawyers at all. The people represented that it was always difficult for the parties to present themselves for payment and that they should be allowed to authorise their lawyers to receive the moneys on their behalf. The Chief Court accordingly cancelled the previous practice. The result was that the parties in their *vakalatnamas* authorised their lawyers not only to plead for

them but also to collect all the moneys due to them from courts. The *vakalatnamas* were printed to provide for the convenience of the parties. The lawyers regularly received moneys due to their clients. If there were any hardships in one or two cases, that was a different matter. But, if there was any real hardship, the only remedy lay in not giving power to the lawyers at all to receive moneys on behalf of their clients. If the people so desired now, the High Court would not allow refunds to be handed over to the lawyers unless a special *vakalatnama* was presented before them.

There was however some difficulty in regard to the acceptance of the resolution. No doubt the resolution read well in that instead of paying the fee in full, half of it only might be permitted to be paid in the first instance and the other half before the framing of the issues. But, in practice that would be very difficult to work. Already, it was common knowledge that litigation took a long time to come to a final disposal. Among the suits instituted, some might be contested and some others not contested. At least 55 per cent of the cases were decreed ex-parte. In the whole State, there were something like 50,000 suits decreed ex-parte. If in these cases only half the sum was accepted at first, it would be very difficult to recover the other half after the ex-parte decree was passed. If the court fee income was Rs. 12 lakhs, the Government would get only in effect a sum of Rs. 6 lakhs. If that were the case, how could the Judicial Department get on? The people wanted increase in the number of courts, revision of the process department and all that, and if the income from court fee was also going to be reduced in this manner, how could all those proposals be given effect to? The case would not also end with the ex-parte decree. There would be lot of contest and applications would be made for setting aside the ex-parte decrees. In such cases, even if half the court fee could be refunded, how could it be done in practice? The effect of accepting the resolution would be to increase litigation rather than afford any relief to the parties. For these reasons, the Law Secretary said that the resolution could not be accepted.

MR. BAGAMANE DEVA GOWDA in replying said that there was no question of lawyers at all in the resolution. There was no complaint that the lawyers took away moneys belonging to the parties. All that was wanted was that the parties should have better facilities in cases where compromise was effected. He added that the Law Secretary admitted that there were advantages as well as disadvantages.

But he failed to know what the real disadvantages were to the parties. No refund was asked in the case of ex-parte decrees at all although refunds were quite in order even in those cases. What was proposed in the resolution was that before the issues were framed, if a compromise was effected, the other half of the court fee should be taken. If the courts and judges were increased, it meant that the Government also got larger sums of money as litigation increased. He therefore thought that the reply of Government was not satisfactory and pressed the resolution for a division.

Accordingly, the resolution was put to vote and carried.

Adjournment Motion.

Mr. Gundappa Gowda was permitted to move the following adjournment motion:—

"That the business of the House be adjourned to discuss an urgent matter of public importance ond of recent occurrence, namely, the merits of the recent Government Order converting all the Incomplete Middle Schools into Primary Schools."

In moving this adjournment motion, MR. GUNDAPPA GOWDA said that in September last, on the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction, an order was passed by Government abolishing 290 incomplete middle schools, of which 197 schools were English Lower Secondary Schools and 93 Kannada Lower Secondary Schools, and converting them into primary schools. The reason for passing such an order was that these incomplete middle schools had not been doing good work. If they did not do good work, the better way to proceed with them was to convert them into pucca middle schools rather than to abolish them altogether. In this connection, he said that the Elementary Education Extension Regulation did not say anything about incomplete middle schools. These schools were first started with the main object of converting them into pucca middle schools later. But, instead of carrying out that intention, Government had not only abolished them but also had converted them into primary schools. That meant that the responsibility for running them was thrust on the District Boards. The Government did not also say whether the savings effected by the abolition of these incomplete middle schools would be given to the District Boards. In his opinion, the middle schools were quite necessary for developing education in the country. Already the number of middle schools was

very small when compared to that of primary schools. There was an incessant cry for giving larger facilities for intending pupils passing out of the primary schools to go up to middle school education. If such facilities were not given, what little those pupils had learnt in the primary schools would soon be forgotten by them. In spite of the fact that pucca English schools were not given to the villages, there was some satisfaction that there were at least incomplete middle schools where the boys could know a little of English and pass the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination. But, by the abolition of these incomplete middle schools, even that facility had been denied to the villagers. He therefore thought that the Government Order was opposed to the wishes of the people.

MR. L. VEMA REDDY seconded the motion.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that there was no real inconvenience by the abolition of these incomplete middle schools as would be explained later by the Director of Public Instruction.

MR. H. C. DASAPPA opposed the motion. The Government had recently enacted the Elementary Education Extension Regulation; the object of which was to entrust the management of the primary schools to the District Boards. The idea was that this Regulation should be brought into force from January 1931. But as all the necessary arrangements were not yet ready, it might come into force from April or May next. While such was the case, the difficulty was as to who should look after the incomplete middle schools, whether the Government or the District Boards. The incomplete middle schools consisted of two parts, primary classes extending to four years and higher classes extending to two years. While the primary classes would be under the management of the District Boards, the higher classes would be under the management of the Department. That would inevitably bring out a duality of control. In these circumstances, he was of opinion that the incomplete middle schools should be converted either into middle schools or into primary schools. He thought that it should have been better, if those schools now abolished had been converted into pucca middle schools. But, that step would entail a very large expenditure. As a first step, however, he thought that the savings effected by the abolition of the incomplete middle schools should be made available for starting pucca middle schools.

However, the meaning of the adjournment motion was

not clear to him. He did not know whether the mover of the motion meant that those schools should have been continued as incomplete middle schools. For the reasons already adduced by him it was evident that if they were continued as incomplete middle schools, there would be dual control and the management of them would be very difficult. If this was acceded, then there was nothing else in the adjournment motion. He thought that the Government Order was quite logical in the circumstances of the case.

MR. A. R. WADIA (Director of Public Instruction).—Sir, I owe an apology to this House for speaking in English; for I could not help it at this stage. The existence of the incomplete middle schools has been for a comparatively very short period, roughly about ten years. And I think they were practically started as a sort of compromise in order to satisfy the public demand for middle schools when the Government were not able to give as many middle schools as the public demanded. But, like many other compromises, this compromise from the beginning was doomed to failure. If you will refer to the various departmental reports of recent years, you will find that year after year it has been emphasised that these incomplete middle schools have proved a complete failure. Practically it has involved a waste of public money. There are reasons adduced for this. For one thing, the courses have been too crowded. For another thing, they were ill-staffed. We could not give to these incomplete middle schools satisfactory teachers. The teachers were practically ill-qualified for the work expected of them. And as a result of that, there has been a waste of public money. This has been recognised year after year, and instead of adding to the number of incomplete middle schools, it has been a definite policy of the Government to reduce the number of these incomplete middle schools, and you will find that during the last four or five years, as many as 70 incomplete middle schools have been abolished. The reason for the issue of the Government Order wherein as many as 290 incomplete middle schools are said to have been abolished, I shall explain to you very briefly. The main reason which actuated this order was the passing of the Elementary Education Extension Bill and the transfer of the control over primary schools to the local education authorities. In very many cases these incomplete middle schools have not got separate buildings of their own. They are housed in the primary schools. Now, when the local education authorities take over the control of all these

primary schools, if incomplete middle schools were to continue under the same roof, there would be many administrative difficulties. There cannot be two masters for the same building. There would be continuous friction, and this is a very satisfactory reason for taking the drastic step that we have already taken. That is on the administrative side.

Apart from that, coming to the merits of the question, I find that there is a distinct fear on the part of many people that the abolition of the incomplete middle schools is a retrograde step. I beg to differ from that view. I should like to assure this House that instead of its being considered as a retrograde step, it is going to bring the dawn of a new era. And I shall very briefly explain to you how this is. When you abolish these unsatisfactory incomplete middle schools and when you are going to have an extension of primary education under the auspices of the local education authorities, there is bound to be a greater and greater demand for middle schools and subsequently even for high schools. Now, it seems to me, that we, as educational authorities, must provide satisfactory institutions and not unsatisfactory institutions just to satisfy public opinion. And in order to give you satisfactory institutions, the time is not far distant when we shall have to embark on a very bold policy of having as many more complete middle schools as possible. Now, the existence of incomplete middle schools is almost a temptation to us to avoid questions of middle schools. But when these incomplete middle schools go, the pressure of public opinion will be so much, and I am sure, the Government have always been responsive to public opinion—that we shall on our part be ready to give you more and more middle schools.

MR. G. K. MALLANNA.—But why not convert the incomplete middle schools into complete middle schools ?

MR. A. R. WADIA.—Wherever necessary we are prepared to do it. Even now. Last year several incomplete middle schools were done away with. That process is going to continue. We did not mention it in the Government Order. Because it was not considered necessary. That is the natural corollary of that. By abolishing the incomplete middle schools, we are not going to reduce either the quantity or the quality of the middle schools. We are not doing that at all.

Another thing is this. The course of primary education extends at present over four years and I think anybody who has been conversant with the problem of primary education will admit that a four years' course is not a long

period. It is necessary in course of time to raise it to six years at least. Now when the control of primary education is going to be passed into the hands of the local authorities, they will sooner or later have to convert this four years' course into a complete six years' course and a beginning in that direction can be easily made by continuing the two extra vernacular classes, which are existing in primary schools even now, after 1st January. So, there is really no abolition. The abolition of incomplete middle schools means the abolition of the name. Secondly, it means the abolition of the teaching of English in these schools. But, let me assure you on behalf of my inspecting officers that the teaching of English in these incomplete middle schools is a farce. It is a waste of public money. In fact they give a wrong foundation. I would not have my child sent to that school. The child is likely to forget what knowledge of English it has gained earlier. Therefore the present position is going to be this. All the primary schools will be vested under the authority of local education authorities. They have got the permission in the Government Order to continue these two extra classes and coach the candidates for the Vernacular Lower Secondary Examination. English would be abolished. I promise you and I am sure that I have the support of the Government that it will be our desire to have more and more middle schools, of course, limited by the extent of funds.

MR. G. K. MALLANNA.—At that rate, it will take a generation before we have middle schools in all places.

MR. A. R. WADIA.—Of course. I may add another thing. Whatever savings effected by the abolition of these incomplete middle schools will be absolutely earmarked for the starting of new complete middle schools, better staffed with better equipment, better housed and in every way better. I think that, on the whole, this is going to be a gain to the public and not a loss to them.

MR. G. K. MALLANNA then said that the main reasons adduced against the motion were dual control and financial difficulty. It was said that the administrative control over the primary schools would vest with the District Boards and the technical control of the other two classes would vest with the department. He did not see how the duality of control would be harmful in any way.

With regard to the financial difficulty, it was said that complete middle schools would be improved by the savings effected by the abolition of the incomplete middle schools.

If 290 complete middle schools had to be started, it would require more than 15 or 20 years and by that time the boys who had got some knowledge in the primary schools would have forgotten everything that they had learnt.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA said that although there would be 250 primary schools hereafter, to that extent there would be no scope for pupils to go up to the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination at all. It was true that in these schools there would be a further course of two years. But, he thought that it would be useful to provide for imparting knowledge in English also in them.

In Krishnarajpet Taluk, he said, there was a middle school which steadily showed very good results and had a sufficiently good strength also. The school there should have been converted into a pucca middle school. But, instead of that, under the recent Government Order, it would be converted into a primary school. This, he said, was not right. When there was such a hierarchy of educational staff, it was surprising that the condition of this school was lost sight of altogether and instead of making it a pucca middle school, it had actually been reduced.

The Director also did not say which of these incomplete middle schools were very bad and which good. Nor did he say whether he would give some complete middle schools also in the place of some of the incomplete middle schools. This matter, he thought, should be investigated at least now.

MR. GOPALACHAR said that although they were incomplete middle schools, boys could pass the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination therefrom and with some little training they could pass the English Lower Secondary Examination also. But, with the abolition of those schools, the boys lost the chance of passing even the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL said that it was not so and that in all the 290 schools, arrangements would be made for the pupils going up for the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination.

MR. IBRAHIM KHAN said that although the villagers paid education cess, the railway cess and a lot of other cesses, they had neither education nor railway facilities. If the people in the village parts should improve, they ought to know English. At present, Government were denying English education to them altogether. This should not be so. The boys must have middle schools wherein they could learn English. Mere primary education was not sufficient.

MR. SANNAGUNDAPPA also said that sufficient facilities should be provided to enable the boys to pass at least the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination. In his opinion, it was no use to stop education to them after the primary course.

MR. KONGADIAPPA was for giving English education also to the boys and having complete middle schools. If the villagers should have education, there was no use of merely stopping with primary schools. They must be followed by middle schools and, if possible, high schools also. He was of opinion that if any incomplete middle school consisted of 200 or 300 boys, such school should be converted into a middle school rather than reduced to a primary school.

MR. GUNDAPPA GOWDA in replying to the debate said that out of 197 incomplete middle schools, at least 100 should be converted into pucca middle schools and that, unless that was done, the Government Order would be considered as a retrograde step. This question deserved the earnest attention of Government. If the primary schools were not followed up by complete lower secondary schools, the boys would relapse into ignorance and all the 4 years they had spent in the primary classes would be so much waste of time. He pleaded for a definite promise from Government that at least 100 incomplete middle schools out of 197 referred to by the Director of Public Instruction should be converted into pucca middle schools within the next two or three years.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL in replying observed that there was some misconception on the part of the members that 290 incomplete middle schools were converted into primary schools and that thereby facilities were denied to the pupils of those schools to appear for the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination. But that was not so. It was clear from the Government Order that such facilities were not taken away.

Some members seemed to think that with the transfer of primary schools to the control of the local education authorities, the District Boards would be burdened with extra cost on account of these primary schools. But that was not the correct position. When the primary schools came under the management of the District Boards according to the Elementary Education Extension Bill, the amount now expended on those schools would also be transferred to the District Boards. Hence the District Boards need have no fear in regard to that.

The Director of Public Instruction had said that the course of the elementary education should extend over a period of 6 years. The District Boards would have control over elementary education and in the new Regulation, elementary education was defined as comprising a course extending over a period of not less than 4 years. That was the minimum period necessary. The idea of the Government was that the course should be one of 6 years. But that could be brought about only gradually. In the case of the schools now under discussion, the course would extend to six years. For the present, the six years' course could be provided in a small number of schools only due to want of adequate funds. But there was however one disadvantage in that; while the incomplete middle schools gave a two years' course in English, that would hereafter be taken away. But the Director had already explained that the teaching of English in these incomplete middle schools was a farce as it gave a wrong foundation to the pupils. The Second Member's own opinion was that, if a child started on the study of English, he should be able to go up to the end of the high school stage. The two years' course in English in all incomplete middle schools was quite useless. It did not mean that the Government did not want to encourage English. For that purpose it would be better to open full middle schools or open special classes attached to high schools under competent headmasters. When high schools were started in all taluks, preparatory classes might be attached to them to meet the needs of pupils who had passed the Kannada Lower Secondary Examination. To open middle schools all over the State was a matter of funds. However that might be, the present Government Order did not cause any of the inconveniences complained of by some members.

MR. M. C. LINGE GOWDA desired to know what was the object of starting incomplete middle schools at the beginning.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that it was not possible to say.

MR. MALLANNA enquired what the reply of the Government was in regard to the conversion of at least 100 incomplete middle schools into complete middle schools as suggested by Mr. Gundappa Gowda.

THE SECOND MEMBER OF COUNCIL replied that it was not possible to say anything on that point at present, as matters relating to the recurring cost, the amount that could

be provided in the budget, etc., had all to be considered. But he did not think that the present Government Order came in the way of that. The idea of Government was that English education should be imparted to pupils in the rural parts as far as possible.

MR. V. VENKATAPPA observed that the object of Government in starting incomplete middle schools in the beginning was to convert them later into complete middle schools. But by abolishing the incomplete middle schools as at present, he did not understand how that object would be fulfilled.

At this stage, the motion was talked out.

The Assembly then rose for the day to meet again the next day at 12 NOON.